

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-06 FRB-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02

CIEP-02 LAB-03 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04 PA-02 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4585

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 5131

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, ECRP, NL

SUBJECT: PARLIAMENT APPROVES NETHERLANDS 1975 BUDGET

REF: HAGUE 4604

1. WITH SMALL CONCESSIONS BOTH TO THE LABOR AND CATHOLIC PARTIES IN THE COALITION, CABINET LAST WEEK PILOTED ITS EXPANSIONARY BUDGET OF 63 BILLION GULDERS THROUGH THE SECOND CHAMBER. MOST OF WHAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTED WAS OBTAINED IN RETURN FOR A PROMISE TO THE CATHOLIC PARTY THAT THE INCOME TAXES OF SMALL SHOP KEEPERS AND FARMERS WOULD BE LOWERED AS OF JAN 1 AND WITH A PROMISE TO THE LABOR PARTY THAT AN ADDITIONAL 100 MILLION GULDERS WOULD BE
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SPENT IN THE FIGHT OF UNEMPLOYMENT. THE INCOME TAX REDUCTION

WILL COST 100 MILLION GUILDERS AND ENTAIL GOVERNMENT ECONOMIES TO MATCH.

2. THE DEBATE, WHICH LASTED 4 DAYS, WAS MARKED BY CRITICISM FROM WITHIN THE COALITION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INTERIM NOTE ON UNEMPLOYMENT AS WELL AS OF YET UNCLEAR INDICATION BY PRIMIN DEN UYL THAT HE WILL INTRODUCE MEASURES TO REDISTRIBUTE CORPORATE PROFITS AND OTHERWISE FURTHER PROGRAM OF INCOME LEVELLING.

3. DEBATES SAW A FUNDAMENTAL CONFRONTATION BETWEEN LABOR AND CATHOLICS ON APPROACH TO DISTRIBUTION OF POWER, DEGREE OF GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE WITH BUSINESS, AND POLICY ON INCOMES AND LAND USE. FLOOR LEADERS OF LABOR AND CATHOLIC PARTIES WERE VOCAL IN THEIR OPPOSITION TO EACH OTHER. COALITION SURVIVED, HOWEVER, SINCE BOTH LABOR LEADER VAN THIJN AND CATHOLIC LEADER ANDRIESEN CONSIDERED CONTINUATION OF GOVERNMENT IN BOTH PARTIES' BEST INTERESTS.
TANGUY

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